

Attorney Docket No. P130-US

IN THE SPECIFICATION

1. Please amend paragraph [0023] as follows

[0023] Even though plastic deformation may be developed in the deformable element during operation after straining, causing variations of the states, the difference between the varied states is within a tolerable range and does not ~~result~~ ~~resulting~~ in device failure.

2. Please amend paragraph [0029] as follows

[0029] In order to improve the lifetime of the microstructure, the deformable element is strained in compliance with the theory as discussed above prior to operation. The straining can be performed in many different stages of fabrications of the spatial light modulator. For example, the straining can be performed before or after assembling the microstructure, or before or after packaging of the spatial light modulator. If the straining is performed before joining the two substrates, an electrode can be provided for actuating the micromirrors. And it can also be performed after the spatial light modulator has been installed into a digital display system. In an embodiment of the invention, the deformable element (e.g. the hinge) is deformed to a deformed state by rotating the mirror plate attached to the hinge to the deformed state. The deformed state can be the ON state of the micromirror. For example, the ON state can be a state wherein the mirror plate is rotated ~~rotates~~ to an angle of from 10° to 18° degrees relative to a state when the mirror plate is flat. Alternatively, the deformed state can be an intermediate state between the ON and OFF state. For example, assuming that the ON and OFF state angles corresponding to the ON and OFF state are respectively 18° degrees and 0° degree, the intermediate state can be a state wherein the mirror plate is rotated to an angle of from 0° to 18° degrees. In another embodiment of the invention, the deformed state can be a negative OFF state, wherein the mirror plate is rotated to an angle of from -0.1° to -8° degrees. The minus sign "-" represents that the mirror plate is rotated in an opposite direction to the OFF state relative to the ON state.